

an estimated two million people have died and four million people have been displaced. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), signed in January 2005, put an end to the long-lasting conflict between the north and the south by establishing a semi-autonomous government for Southern Sudan for a duration of six years, after which Southern Sudan would vote for secession or unity.

From January 9 to 15, 2011, Sudan held a referendum to decide if Southern Sudan would become a sovereign and independent country, or remain part of Sudan. Approximately 3.8 million Southern Sudanese exercised their right to self determination, and on February 7, 2011, the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC) announced the final results, with almost 99 percent voting for independence from the north.

On February 7, 2011, Sudan's President Omar Al-Bashir officially accepted the final results of the referendum, and the United States announced on the same day its intention to formally recognize Southern Sudan. On July 9, 2011, Southern Sudan will become the sovereign and independent Republic of Southern Sudan.

While I applaud these recent accomplishments, several issues pertaining to the separation of the two states remain and must be resolved prior to the conclusion of the transition period. These include and are not limited to: the legal status of populations in the north and south, wealth sharing, resource management—especially oil revenues, division of assets and debt, currency, security arrangements, and infrastructure and institutions building. The future status of the oil rich region of Abyei—full integration with Sudan or Southern Sudan, or partition of the region in two—also needs to be determined.

My resolution congratulates the people of Southern Sudan for exercising their right to self determination and welcomes the new nation of Southern Sudan. In addition, it calls on both parties to resolve separation issues prior to the conclusion of the transition period, including the status of Abyei. It also urges Sudan to put an end to repression and violence, and Southern Sudan to create democratic institutions and plan elections. Lastly, the resolution pledges that the United States will work with both governments to ensure a peaceful transition to independence and encourages other nations to do so.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has played a major role in bringing this devastating conflict to an end. I will continue to monitor the issue and advocate for a peaceful and non-violent separation. Not only do the people of northern and southern Sudan deserve it, but it is in the interest of our nation and the world to establish peace and stability in the region. Therefore, I encourage other nations to welcome the new state of Southern Sudan and assist with their transition process.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
RYAN PIERSON ON HIS OFFER
OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND
THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT
MARINE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Ryan Pierson of Perrysburg, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Ryan brings an enormous amount of leadership, service and dedication to the incoming Class of 2015. While attending Perrysburg High School in Perrysburg, Ohio, Ryan consistently achieved high honors. He was also an active member of his high school band.

Throughout high school, Matthew played and received his varsity letter playing football. Ryan also recently became an Eagle Scout, following years of participation as a member of Boy Scouts of America. He also served in a number of leadership capacities throughout his years as a Boy Scout. I am confident that Ryan will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ryan Pierson on the acceptance of his appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy where he will gain a world-class education and invaluable leadership experience. I am positive that Ryan will excel during his career at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the nation.

HONORING COLONEL MARGUERITE C. GARRISON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Colonel Marguerite C. (McDonald) Garrison who will be retiring from the U.S. Army after more than thirty years of service.

Col. Garrison was born and raised in South Buffalo, NY. Upon graduating from St. Bonaventure University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology/Biology, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Military Police Corps through the ROTC.

After completing the Military Police Officer Basic Course, Col. Garrison spent nearly six years stationed in Germany, where she served as the Commander of Headquarter and Headquarters Detachment in Kornwestheim, Platoon Leader of the 194th Military Police Company in Neu Ulm, Assistant S3/Training Officer in the 385th Military Police Battalion, and finally as Commander of the 630th Military Police Company in Bamberg.

In 1987 Col. Garrison returned to the United States for the Military Police Officer Advanced

Course and was assigned to Fort McPherson, GA. From 1987 to 1991 she served as the Force Structure Officer in the Forces Command Provost Marshal Office, Assistant Secretary to the Joint, Forces Command, and the Executive Officer in the Forces Command Provost Marshal Office.

In 1992 she attended the 170th session of the FBI National Academy, one of only twelve army personnel selected annually, and after graduating from the eleven week program became the Deputy Program Director of the World University Games held in Buffalo, New York. In this position, Col. Garrison coordinated joint security planning between the military, state, and local police.

Col. Garrison went on to attend the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and was assigned as Executive Officer of the 705th Military Police Battalion. She earned a Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University in 1995, and in recognition of her expertise in public safety was selected as a Security Liaison for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, GA.

Col. Garrison next assigned as the Inspector General of the United States Total Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, VA. From 2000 to 2002 she commanded the 5th Military Police Battalion, Criminal Investigation Command, in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and went on to serve as the Inspector General for the Army Criminal Investigation Command. Following her graduation from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Col. Garrison was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense as the Deputy Director for Antiterrorism Policy.

In her next position, Col. Garrison served as Garrison Commander at Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem, GA. Following her time in GA, she was deployed to Iraq and served in the Multi-National Force-Iraq CJ3 as the Director for Protections, Chief of Staff and Deputy Director, of Current Operations. Upon her redeployment in 2009, Col. Garrison was assigned to her current position as the Army's Chief, Initiatives Group, Vice Chief of Staff.

During her career, Col. Garrison graduated the United States Army Command and General Staff College, the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and, at the time of her induction, was the youngest member of the St. Bonaventure University ROTC Hall of Fame. She is married to LTC (Ret.) Kevin Garrison, and is the proud mother of her twin sons, Sean and Kieran, and her daughter, Kelsea.

Her awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Star), Iraqi Campaign Medal (with two stars), the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon (Numeral 3), and the NATO Medal (Kosovo). Col. Garrison was also authorized to wear the Secretary of Defense and Army Staff Identification Badges and the Order of the Marechaussee in Silver.

Mr. Speaker, Col. Marguerite Garrison is a proud soldier, patriot, and Western New Yorker. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring